



Police Procedurals

Evil at heart by *Chelsea Cain*

Portland detective Archie Sheridan hunted Gretchen Lowell for a decade, and after his last ploy to catch her went spectacularly wrong, remains hospitalized months later. When they last spoke, they entered a detente of sorts--Archie agreed not to kill himself if she agreed not to kill anyone else. But when a new body is found accompanied by Gretchen's trademark heart, all bets are off and Archie is forced back into action. Has the Beauty Killer returned to her gruesome ways, or has the cult surrounding her created a whole new evil?

The Lost Witness by *Robert Ellis*

LAPD robbery and homicide detective Lena Gamble is surprised when she's handed a particularly horrific murder case. Her trusted supervisor, Lt. Frank Barrera, even warns her that it may be a trap. A dismembered female body found in a dumpster in Hollywood offers little in the way of clues until an anonymous witness delivers the Jane Doe's driver's license and a flash drive showing the victim's kidnapping. Gamble follows every lead even when her own bosses spy on her and warn her off investigating the son of a powerful pharmaceutical company owner and a physician who knew the dead woman. Finding the missing witness before the killer finds her may be Gamble's only hope of solving this deliciously twisted crime novel in which nothing is what it appears to be.

The Odds by *Kathleen George*

Pittsburgh homicide detectives Colleen Greer and John Potocki are on loan to the Narcotics Department to help finalize a roundup of drug dealers. At the same time, a stepmother abandons her four children, telling them to seek help from Family Services. Instead, they struggle to cope on their own until they find a corpse and a gravely injured man in an abandoned building and decide to protect him from the law and a pursuing drug pusher.

Blind Eye by *Stuart MacBride*

Investigator Logan McRae tackles another thankless case in MacBride's sharp and suspenseful fifth novel set in gritty Aberdeen, Scotland. Logan suddenly finds himself caught up in a brave new world of drug wars, prostitution rings, and gun-running courtesy of Aberdeen's oldest and most vicious crime lord.

Darker Domain *by Val McDermid*

Set in Fife, Scotland, McDermid's 25th psychological thriller features Detective Inspector Karen Pirie, who must handle two cold cases almost simultaneously. On behalf of a mother desperate to save her dying son through a bone-marrow transplant, Pirie seeks the woman's father, who disappeared 23 years ago during a miners' strike. In the other case, a journalist vacationing in Italy has uncovered new evidence regarding the kidnapping of the daughter of Sir Broderick MacLennan Grant, the richest man in Scotland. However, Sir Grant has the reporter, Bel Richmond, investigating the new evidence, and vital information is not always shared with the police. Pirie's superior officer pressures her to solve the Grant case to everyone's satisfaction, but Pirie's own interest is held by the missing grandfather case. The plot weaves between the past and the present, the two cold cases, and the two women investigating them until it reaches a startling conclusion. This is McDermid's storytelling at its best, and DI Pirie, with her blend of humor and tenaciousness, is both likable and believable.

Woman With Birthmark *by Hakan Nesser*

Detective Van Veeteren and his associates are left bewildered by the curious murder of a man shot twice in the heart and twice below the belt. Revenge seems to be the motive, in this chilling novel filled with deception, blackmail, and murder.

Boulevard *by Stephen Jay Schwartz*

Hayden Glass is the top investigator in the LAPD elite Robbery and Homicide Division. He's also a sex addict. This debut novel revolves around Glass's addiction and a series of sadistic murders that are aimed specifically at Glass. The murderer leaves clues that Glass puts together but that others miss mainly because few know about his addiction. Working with Kennedy Reynard, a former FBI profiler, he slowly tracks the killer.

The Shadow Walker *by Mike Walters*

As winter falls upon the streets of Ulan Bataar, Mongolia, a serial killer is just getting warmed up. When the mutilated body of a fourth victim is found in one of the city's most expensive hotels, Nergui, the former head of the Serious Crimes squad, is no closer to catching the killer and will accept any help he can get. Drew McLeish, a senior British CID officer and no stranger to the savage side of human nature, is sent out to lend his expertise to the investigation. From the abandoned factories of the city's decaying suburbs to the icy expanse of the barren steppes, Nergui and McLeish follow a trail of the dead.--From publisher description.

Hollywood Moon *by Joseph Wambaugh*

There is saying at Hollywood station that the full moon brings out the beast, rather than the best, in the precinct's citizens. LAPD veteran Dana Vaughn and "Hollywood" Nate Weiss get a call about a young man who's been attacking women. Meanwhile, two surfer cops known as Flotsam and Jetsam keep bumping into an odd, suspicious duo, a smooth talking player in dreadlocks and a crazy eyed, tattooed biker. No one suspects that all three dubious characters might be involved in something bigger, more high tech, and much more illegal. The author gets inside the hearts and minds of the cops whose jobs have them constantly on the brink of danger. By turns heart wrenching, exhilarating, and laugh out loud funny, this novel is his most thrilling and deeply affecting ride yet through the singular streets of Los Angeles.